

**PET FOOD INSTITUTE**

2025 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 • (202) 367-1120 • FAX (202) 367-2120 • [www.petfoodinstitute.org](http://www.petfoodinstitute.org)

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September 1, 2006

Valerie Frances, Executive Director  
National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)  
USDA-AMS-TM-NOP  
Room 4008- South Building  
1400 Independence Ave, SW  
Washington, DC 20250-0001

Dear Ms. Frances:

The Pet Food Institute, the trade association representing 98% of the dog and cat food produced in the United States, a \$14.5B industry, wishes to thank the National Organic Standards Board and USDA for allowing us to comment on the preliminary report prepared by the Pet Food Task Force.

On balance, the Institute strongly supports the work of the Task Force, document. We appreciate the effort put forth by the committee to recognize the unique nature of pet food while making a useful, workable document that acknowledges the existing regulations for pet and specialty pet foods and applies the "organic" requirements within those rules. This will allow manufacturers of "organic" pet foods to work on an equitable basis with the rest of the industry, while creating a specialized product.

Thanks again for the opportunity to comment.

Best Regards,

Nancy K. Cook  
Vice President, Technical and Regulatory Affairs